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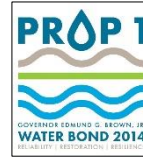
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Mark Stanley

San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY



For Immediate Release:

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Contact: Mark Stanley 626-815-1019 x100

Jose Gardea 323-559-1762

PRESS RELEASE: RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY COMPLETES PUBLIC WORKSHOPS WHERE OVER 100 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATED

The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), as part of the Proposition 1 competitive grant roll-out, has just completed a series of public meetings throughout their service region. The purpose of the workshops was to review the proposed grant guidelines for the grant program and to gather feedback from the public regarding the guidelines.

Assemblymember Anthony Rendon (63rd AD) attended one of the workshops in Downey, "These workshops are the result of numerous meetings across the state and are the result of the intentional process of rewriting the water bond prior to its completion and passage last November." Community involvement and competitive grants are two of the key themes that are currently part of the Proposition 1 water bond programs, including those that will be distributed by the RMC.

Over 100 members of the public participated in the workshops, which were held in Newhall, West Covina, Fullerton, and Downey between July 23rd and July 30, 2015. At the workshops, participants learned about the RMC, its previous funding programs, and reviewed the RMC's Prop. 1 draft guidelines. Participants also engaged RMC staff in a question and answer session. Mark Stanley, Executive Officer of the RMC, informed participants that the deadline to submit questions and comments relative to the draft guidelines is August 14, 2015.

The RMC will incorporate into the guidelines public comments that were gathered at these public meetings and subsequent suggestions submitted via their website. The RMC anticipates having final guidelines by late September 2015.

The RMC is expected to release a Call-for-Projects application in the fall. Further information regarding the timeline and the proposed grant program is available on www.rmc.ca.gov

The voters of California approved the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 ("Proposition 1" or "Water Bond") in November 2014 codified as Division 26.7 of the Water Code which authorized \$7.545 billion dollars in general obligation bonds for State water projects, including surface and groundwater storage, ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration, and

drinking water protection. The purpose of Proposition 1 is to provide funding for projects that implement the three objectives of the California Water Action Plan which are more reliable water supplies, restoration of important species and habitat and a more resilient and sustainably managed water infrastructure (Proposition 1, Chapter 2, Section 79701 (e)). Chapter 6 of Proposition 1 allocates \$30 million to the RMC for competitive grants for multi-benefit ecosystem, watershed protection and restoration projects in accordance with statewide priorities (79731(f)).

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The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) is one of 10 statewide conservancies. Their territory spans portions of the Antelope Valley, the San Gabriel Mountains, a majority of Los Angeles County and Northern Orange County. Additional information about the Conservancy can be found on the website: www.rmc.ca.gov